



LEADER ATTRIBUTES (CHARACTER)

TASK: Discuss the Leader Attribute **Character**.

CONDITIONS: Leader facilitated group discussion.

STANDARDS: Soldiers and Leaders understand expectations of what a Leader of Character is, and how he/she can impact Soldiers' morale and unit readiness.

REFERENCE(S): ADP/ADRP 6-22 Army Leadership; NCO Creed



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MAIN POINT #1 What is Character?

- Character is the essence of who a person is.
- Character is what a person believes.
- Character is what a person does.



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MAIN POINT #2 Leaders of Character will be authentic, positive Leaders.

- Integrity is a key mark of a Leader's character, and is the foundation for TRUST.
- Leaders of character and integrity adhere to the values that are part of their personal identity and set a standard for their followers to emulate (LEAD BY EXAMPLE).
- Leaders who are effective with followers identify with the role and expectations of a Leader; they willingly take responsibilities typical of a Leader and perform the actions of a Leader. Leaders who are unsure of themselves may not have a strong idea of their identity.



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MAIN POINT #3 Soldiers expect their Leaders to be of the highest Character.

- The NCO Creed states, “All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding Leadership; I will provide that Leadership.”
- Soldiers expect their Leaders to provide it, but many interpret “outstanding leadership” in their own way. Leaders must be aware of what outstanding leadership is and how it impacts unit morale in a positive way. Leaders of character are willing to endure hardships with their Soldiers, demonstrate courage in the face of adversity, and constantly strive to improve their Soldiers as well as themselves. Soldiers may expect Leaders to be fallible (human), but never weak or incompetent.